GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
AGRICULTURE
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:3524
ANSWERED ON:07.04.2003
EXCESS USE OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS
MAHESHWAR SINGH

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether due to excessive use of chemicals, fertilizers and pesticides there is decline in the fertility of the land and dangers of the underground water being polluted;

(b) if so, whether the Government have conducted any survey to find out the decline in fertility of land in various parts of the country; and

(c) the remedial measures the Government propose to take in this regard?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI HUKUMDEO NARAYAN YADAV)

(a): The average consumption of fertilizers and pesticides in the country is only 90.12 kg/ha and 0.57 kg/ha (active ingredient), respectively during 2001-02. This level of consumption is not considered to cause decline in fertility of land and pollution of underground water.

(b): No systematic survey has been made to ascertain the decline in soil fertility due to excessive use of fertilizers in the country. However, there are few instances of decline in soil fertility due to imbalanced use of fertilizers.

(c): The Government is promoting the soil test based balanced and integrated use of chemical fertilizers in conjunction with organic manures & biofertilizers and also integrated pest management practices.